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Office of Research & Engagement

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Research

Scholarship

Creative Activity

Montgomery will focus on federal agencies

The new director of external relations has joined the staff of the vice chancellor for communications and marketing.

Paul W. Montgomery will coordinate the interactions of the UT Knoxville campus with federal agencies. His position includes some of the responsibilities in federal relations held by Lillian Mashburn, who retired last year.

"My chief focus will be to identify and facilitate access to federal agency research opportunities for UT Knoxville faculty," Montgomery said. He will also work closely with Washington-based Kurt Schlieter, the UT system director of federal relations, whose primary focus is congressional relations.

Additionally, Montgomery will facilitate the involvement of UT faculty, staff, and administrators in shaping national policies of particular interest to the campus.

Montgomery's background includes several positions in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, including most recently the chief of national programs. He also served as the



Montgomery

deputy director for strategic arms control policy.

Born in Washington, D.C., Montgomery grew up in Knoxville. A 1985 graduate of Notre Dame, he took an M.A. in public policy at Duke in 1987.

Faculty Handbook spells out policies on consulting, outside work

The University of Tennessee recognizes that full-time faculty are obligated to staying up-to-date in their discipline and that that may involve testing one's academic skills and abilities on real-world problems.

Full-time faculty members appointed to the University of Tennessee have agreed to devote themselves to UT's mission of teaching, research, and public service. Fulfillment of these responsibilities demands a full-time, 100% commitment to normal university duties, including the obligation to remain current in the discipline.

When there is a potential conflict between a faculty member's obligations to the university and to his or her outside activities, the Faculty Handbook offers specific guidance. In brief, the key considerations:

- A full-time appointment requires a full-time commitment to the university's mission of teaching, research, and public service and a duty to remain current in the faculty member's discipline.
- A full-time appointment includes an obligation to maintain a meaningful presence on behalf of the university, including being accessible to students staff, and colleagues.
- Annual reviews will be based only on faculty members' full-time responsibilities and duties to the university and its mission, not on activities outside that commitment.
- Colleges and/or departmental bylaws may determine the scope and nature of faculty members' outside commitments.
- Short-term activities (editing of scholarly publications, symposia, presentations, exhibitions, recitals, etc.), compensation through grants and contracts, and certain summer compensation are not prohibited by the guidelines.

For a fuller expression of the guidelines on outside activities, see <http://provost.utk.edu/facultyhandbook/chapter7.shtml>, or contact the office of the vice provost for academic affairs (974-6152).

RELATED: According to Michael Herbstritt, assistant director for human resources for UT Knoxville, exempt staff must take annual leave or leave without pay for any outside work. He notes that for full-time exempt staff, the university has priority in any conflict between an exempt worker's university responsibilities and outside work. Leave must be arranged with the appropriate supervisor.

UTOR listserv gives quick info on policy changes

If you would like a quick way to find out about changes in agency proposal policies or new procedures in the UT Knoxville Office of Research, then sign up for **ORALERT**, a listserv published by the office's Sponsored Programs unit.

Coordinators monitor funding agency communications and talk with award personnel to stay abreast of new requirements for

proposal preparation. You can join the listserv by going to <http://listserv.utk.edu/archives/oralert.html> and following the signup instructions.

NSF makes 'broader impacts' criterion more specific

The latest Dear Colleague Letter from the National Science Foundation spells out the revised expectations for the broader-impacts requirements of proposals to the agency. The letter from Luis Echegoyen, director of the NSF Division of Chemistry, was issued 7 April 08.

"Broader impacts" is one of two criteria used by reviewers to establish the merit of proposals (the other is intellectual merit).

The NSF wants proposers to integrate the proposed research with activities that foster broader impacts of the research being conducted. The new letter requires project activities that are based on good scholarship and that have clearly stated goals and metrics, supported by the appropriate expertise and resources. To quote the document, "... a simple listing of outreach activities, or reference to inclusion of research personnel who are members of underrepresented groups, falls short of the rigor required to satisfactorily address this criterion."

Three specific sections of all proposals require attention to the "broader impacts" criterion: the project summary, which must address both criteria in separate statements, the project description, which integrate the broader impacts into the descriptive narrative, and the results of prior support, which must make specific reference to any NSF awards held in the previous five years by proposing PIs or co-PIs.

For more information, consult http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08044/nsf08044.jsp?govDel=USNSF_25.

Studies: Jobless rate low in science, engineering

According to recent National Science Foundation data, the number of individuals working in science and engineering occupations grew by 4.3 percent, and their unemployment rate dropped to 2.5 percent in 2006, the lowest unemployment rate since the early 1990s.

Overall unemployment for scientists and engineers in the United States dropped to 2.5 percent in 2006.

Unemployment rates for the entire U.S. labor force in 2003 and 2006 were 6 percent and 4.7 percent respectively as compared with the 3.2 percent and 2.5 percent posted for scientists and engineers, maintaining the historical norm of lower unemployment rates than for the overall labor market.

These statistics reflect the labor market as of 2006, so are not representative of the current status of the S&E workforce.

NSF data on new graduates also shows potential for a new influx of S&E workers. In 2006, there were 1.9 million new science, engineering and health graduates with degrees earned in academic years 2003 to 2005 in the United States.

Nearly all of these new graduates either entered the workforce or moved on to higher education. Women made up more than 50 percent of these new science, engineering and health graduates, but this varied by specific field. See http://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=111369&govDel=USNSF_51

16 April 2008

Recipients of the 2008 SARIF Graduate Research Assistantships

Student	Department	Faculty Mentor
Al-Binni, Usama	Physics and Astronomy	Siopsis, George
Baker, Levi	Psychology	McNulty, James
Barnett, Hannah	Theory and Practice in Teacher Education	Wolbers, Kimberly
Benedict, Regina	Sociology	Presser, Lois
Blakewood, Amanda	Educational Psychology & Counseling	Strayhorn, Terrell
Eickhoff, Karen	Management	Plowman, Donde
Elkins, Bryan S.	Mechanical, Aerospace & Biomedical Engineering	Frankel, Jay
Harden, Jeremiah	Chemistry	Foister, Shane
Harmon-Gross, Elizabeth	Anthropology	Hepner, Tricia Redeker
Indranoi, Chayawat	Industrial & Information Engineering	Li, Xueping
Kim, Iltai	Mechanical, Aerospace & Biomedical Engineering	Kihm, Kenneth
Kim, Sora	Advertising and Public Relations	Avery, Elizabeth & Childers, Courtney
Leander, Rachel	Mathematics	Lenhart, Suzanne
Li, Yanyan	Electrical Engineering and Computer Science	Djouadi, Seddik
Newton, Alex	Music	Murphy, Barbara
Niemiller, Matthew	Ecology & Evolutionary Biology	Fitzpatrick, Benjamin
Phillippi, Julia	n/a	Myers, Carole
Spasovska, Katerina	Journalism and Electronic Media	Gross, Peter
Spond, Mark	Geography	Grissino-Mayer, Henri
Taylor, Michael	History	Freeberg, Ernest
Wang, Lu	Material Science & Engineering	Nieh, T.G.
Willett, Jennifer	Psychology	Gordon, Kristina
Wilson, Matt	Audiology and Speech Pathology	Harkrider, Ashley
Wynn, Porche'	Educational Psychology & Counseling	Kronick, Robert
Zhang, Yu	Finance	Philippatos, George

Albert P. Sloan Foundation Business Organizations

The Albert P. Sloan Foundation offers a continuous award program for academic researchers seeking to paint a realistic picture of how corporations and other business organizations function, with special emphasis on how the people in them behave, are motivated, and are rewarded. See http://www.sloan.org/programs/stdndrd_role.shtml.

Honda Initiation Grant

Honda will make at least five grants for \$50,000 for breakaway insights in personal mobility, with special attention to automobiles and motorcycles, the environment and environmentally friendly materials, and computer science and humanoid robotics. *Important date:* Preproposal due to Honda on 28 April 2008. See http://www.honda-ri.com/HRI_Us/about-us/honda-initiation-grant.

You are invited . . .

...to submit news of your professional accomplishments, publications, presentations, and other career information you would like to share with the UT Knoxville community, and ...
...to nominate your colleagues for inclusion in the coming Office of Research web page feature, "Scholar of the Week."

RSVP

...to Bill Dockery (dockeryb@utk.edu) with news and Greg Reed (gdreed@utk.edu) with nominations.

Biological Research Collections (BRC)

The NSF is soliciting proposals for its Biological Research Collections in support of enhancement and modernization of natural history collections, frozen-tissue collections, and DNA libraries.



NOTE: The University of Tennessee, as accredited, can submit only one proposal for 2008. Anyone interested in submitting should send a statement of intent to Bill Dockery (dockeryb@utk.edu) by **25 April 08**. More than one statement of intent may require an internal competition.

Important date: Designated final proposal must be submitted to UTOR by 8 a.m. 22 July 2008. Detailed information is available at <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2006/nsf06569/nsf06569.htm>.

Graduate Teaching Fellows in K-12 Education (GK-12)

The NSF is soliciting proposals for its Graduate Teaching Fellows in K-12 Education, which supports graduate students in STEM disciplines in interactions with teachers and students in K-12 schools in order to facilitate the graduate students' ability to communicate science and mathematics to the general public. The solicitation includes seven NSF directorates and three offices.



NOTE: The University of Tennessee, as accredited, can submit only one proposal. Anyone interested in submitting a proposal should send a statement of intent to Bill Dockery (dockeryb@utk.edu) by **21 April 08**.

Important dates: Selected proposer will need to submit a letter of intent to NSF by 16 May 08. The selected proposer will submit a final proposal to the UT Office of Research by 8 a.m. 27 June 08. Detailed information is available at http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08556/nsf08556.htm?govDel=USNSF_25.

Faculty Early Career Development Program (CAREER)

The NSF is soliciting proposals for its CAREER program in its seven directorates and the Office of Polar Programs. The award is for junior faculty "who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education, and the integration of education and research. . . ." The agency will make 425 awards, some 20 of which will be further honored with Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers. Applicants must meet special eligibility requirements.

Important date: Completed proposals must be submitted to the UT Knoxville Office of Research by 8 a.m. 16 July 2008. Detailed information is available at <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2008/nsf08557/nsf08557.htm>.

Spencer Foundation Research Grants in Education

The Spencer Foundation provides funding for research projects that study education in the United States and abroad. The foundation's research interests include the relation between education and social opportunity, purposes and values of education, and organizational learning, among other topics. The foundation accepts proposals continuously. See <http://www.spencer.org/main.htm>.

Innovations Deserving Exploratory Analysis

Sponsored by the National Academies Transportation Research Board, Innovations Deserving Exploratory Analysis (IDEA) programs fund research into promising but unproven innovations for highways, transportation safety, and transit. There are two project types: Type 1 projects are concept explorations that demonstrate the validity of unproven concepts, and Type 2 projects develop and test prototypes of proven concepts.

Important date: Agency deadline, 1 September 2008. See <http://www.trb.org/Studies/Programs/IDEA.asp>.

Low-Dose Radiation Research Program

The Office of Biological and Environmental Research (BER) of the Office of Science (SC), U.S. Department of Energy announces the Integrated Program Project grant for new research to develop a better scientific basis for understanding risks to humans from exposures to low doses of ionizing radiation. This opportunity is designed to provide long-term support for stable, multi-investigator teams whose research projects are integrated to work synergistically on a focused problem in low dose research.

Important date: Due to UTOR by 8 a.m., 19 June 08. See <https://e-center.doe.gov/iips/faopor.nsf/UNID/661B89AB2B8-FA033852574200053EC9C?OpenDocument>.



Requires internal letter of intent; may require internal competition. Contact Bill Dockery (dockeryb@utk.edu).

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